

Alberta Finance Economic Bulletin

Economic Statistics Released During the Week of July 14, 2003 to July 18, 2003

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
New Motor Vehicle Sales	May			New motor vehicle sales in Canada numbered 144,282 in May, up 8.4% from the previous month. Passenger car sales increased 5.9%, and truck sales increased 11.4% from April. All provinces recorded monthly gains, with the largest percentage gains occurring in Prince Edward Island (13.6%), Saskatchewan (12.2%), and Ontario (10.7%).
Alberta	16,985	8.1%	0.8%	
Canada	144,282	8.4%	-0.5%	
Manufacturing Shipments (\$ millions)	May			Canadian manufacturing shipments posted 0.8% monthly decline in May. Manufacturing shipments in Alberta also finished the month lower (-2.0%), driven by a 5.6% drop in the province's shipments of meat products. This decrease was largely due to the export ban on Canadian beef products imposed by the United States and Japan, among other countries, because of the discovery of a single case of mad cow disease. Seven provinces experienced monthly losses, led by New Brunswick (-6.3%), Manitoba (-3.2%), and Alberta (-2.0%). The provinces with gains were Newfoundland and Labrador (+6.2%) and Prince Edward Island (+4.5%).
Alberta	3,499	-2.0%	3.3%	
Canada	42,442	-0.8%	-2.2%	
Wholesale Trade (\$ millions)	May			Alberta's wholesale trade increased by 3.5% in May, and was up 9.6% annually. Wholesale trade in Canada remained virtually unchanged from April. Monthly increases in farm machinery, equipment and supplies sales (+10.6%) and apparel and dry goods sales (+2.2%) were largely offset by declines in sales of computers, packaged software, and other electronic machinery (-2.9%) and sales of metals, hardware, plumbing, and heating equipment and supplies (-1.9%).
Alberta	3,789	3.5%	9.6%	
Canada	35,877	0.2%	3.7%	